THE MESSENGER
OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

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EASTER

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold two men stood by them in shining garments: . . . .

And as they were afraid, and bowed their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead.

He is not here, but is risen. . . —Luke 24:1-6.

Although in the centuries after the world's most important event, this scripture has become the story of the first Easter, this festival was commemorated long before Christ came to earth.

It is probable that Anglo-Saxon pagans originated the idea of Easter in celebrating the arrival of spring. On this day they expressed joy in the rising of the natural sun following the death-like winter. The word Easter or Eostre was derived from the fact that the sun arose in the East. It was a widespread belief that on this particular morning, the Sun danced. Scots believed that it spun on a mill wheel. For many decades scholars pondered over this unusual belief.

After the advent of Christ his followers adapted the Easter festival to commemorate the resurrection. Joy at the rising of the natural sun became joy at the rising of the sun of righteousness at the resurrection.

Differences in beliefs of Christians, of Jewish descent and Christians of Gentile descent caused discrepancies in the date of Easter. With the Jewish Christians, whose leading thought would be the death of Christ as the true Paschal Lamb, the fast would end at the same time as that of the Jews, the 14th day of the moon, at evening, and the Easter festival would immediately follow, entirely irrespective of the day of the week.

With the Gentile Christians the resurrection festival was observed on the first day of the week and the Friday before would commemorate the crucifixion.

To bring the day commemorating the crucifixion always on Friday and the commemoration of the resurrection always on Sunday, the moon's phases were used as a standard. Thus Easter, although a movable date, is always on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal, or spring equinox, a blending of the more ancient spring festival with the supreme sacrifice of Our Lord and his glorious triumph over death. As the centuries have passed differences have been wiped out and the day is recognized as a symbol of the resurrection rather than as the anniversary of the day upon which the Lord arose from the tomb. Age has made it the greatest of all religious festival days. It is the symbol of faith in the ultimate rightness of life. It is confidence in the reality and permanence of Christ's resurrection, and the great boon he gave to mankind.

Members of the L. D. S. church conforming with many Christian customs, have adopted Easter Sunday by mutual consent, as a symbol of resurrection. Though ceremony does not differ from that used at other sacramental services, the day is religiously observed by recalling the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ in sermons and oratorios. While no official credence is given to the exact anniversary, the spirit of Easter commends itself to the religious part of the soul, and thus the custom of its observance is widespread.

Gladys Hobbs

APRIL CONFERENCE

President Grant, in his opening address, expressed gratitude at meeting again with the Saints in conference. He spoke of the growth of the Church during the years he has been one of the General Authorities, and said he rejoiced that God's work is progressing.

He referred to the work of the Prophet Joseph Smith and said that although his enemies could put him in jail, they could not rob him of communication with heaven.

Divine Guidance Proven

"God has been with the Church since its organization," he said, and quoted statistics showing the marvelous growth and development of the Church despite all its persecution and adversities, "and I say to you," he continued, "that without Divine guidance and inspiration this marvelous growth would have been impossible."

The President said that every man and woman chosen to preside or assist in the administration of the Church from the highest position down to the least was selected purely on a basis of worthiness, merit and ability, and declared that "the offscouring of the earth can go on howling as long and loud as they like and it won't make any difference!"

Always Upheld

He read from the Doctrine and Covenants, sections 121 and 122, commenting at intervals.

The Saints of God have always upheld his prophets, said President Grant, from the Prophet Joseph Smith down to the present leader of the Church.

"God has been with this Church from the day of its organization and it will remain," said President Grant. "The rights of the Priesthood and the powers of heaven have been exercised in the Church from the days of the Prophet Joseph Smith until today, upon the principles of righteousness."

Personal Experiences Recalled

President Grant diverted from his reading at times, recalled personal experiences and remembrances concerning the general authorities of the Church, present and past. Whenever a call comes for a leader in the Church it is the aim to get the best person for each position, despite the complaints to the contrary.

There has never been any authority exercised in the Church, save by the Spirit of God, President Grant said. He recalled the spirit of animosity that prevailed against the Church in New York when he first visited there years ago, and rejoiced in the great changes that have come since that time, referring to his recent visit to the metropolis and other eastern centers. He cited the growth of the missions and branches, and the friendly feeling that has replaced the bitterness of former years.

Refers to Recent Visit

President Grant referred to his recent visit to a convention of Boy Scout executives in the east and rejoiced in the compliments paid to the Church for its activities in scouting. He referred to the compliments paid to this people by the late Bishop Tuttle, and spoke especially of the Book of Mormon having recently been printed in Braille for the blind, saying he rejoiced in this achievement.

President Grant said he is delighted with the efforts put forth by the Genealogical society and with the work being performed in the Temples of the Church. He referred to the recent dedication of the L. D. S. Institute at Laramie, Wyoming, and rejoiced in the good things said of this people by the governor of Wyoming and the president of the University of Wyoming.

Good Spirit Prevalent

There was a spirit of fellowship and good will, he said, the equal of anything he had ever experienced.

"Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of the Lord," President Grant said.

"Wherefore ye are called to cry repentance unto this people," he continued to read, citing that the leaders of God's people have been called by this spirit. The Gospel is not only one of conversion but of forgiveness, said President Grant.

Powerful Testimony Given

He concluded with a powerful testimony that Joseph Smith was and is a Prophet of God, that God lives and his Son Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of the world, and with a prayer for all who seek to serve the Lord.

Deseret News

MISSIONARIES

The first issue of the *Oakland Stake Missionary* will be published in April. The purpose of this paper is to increase Missionary effort in Oakland Stake. Besides serving as an inspiration to the missionaries, the paper is expected to unite them in a common interest. A similar paper, called *The Mizpah,* which existed under the presidency of Brother Charles C. Carr, was very successful.

A conference of the Oakland Stake Mission will be held Saturday, May 16 at 2:00 and 6:00 p. m. in the Stake House. Everyone is invited to attend. At the 6:00 session, a banquet will be held which will be followed by a dance. Tickets will be fifty cents and can be obtained from ward missionaries.

The first quarterly report of our stake missionaries shows commendable progress over the corresponding period of 1935. 610 hours were spent in tracting as against 568 for the 1935 quarter, 647 gospel conversations, as against 516 last year, 67 books distributed compared to 14, 1689 tracts distributed compared to 1384, and six baptisms as compared with one in the first quarter of last year.

There seems to be every reason to look forward to a fair improvement for the coming quarter. More laborers are being recommended by the bishops and it seems likely that the force at work will be increased fifty per cent before long.

Helen Carr has been selected as the stake mission secretary.

ACHIEVEMENT

Dilworth Jensen, graduate student in the School of Agriculture at the University of California, has received the Rosenberg Memorial Scholarship for the coming academic year because of outstanding work in the field of Entymology.

THE MESSENGER

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1

Vol. 6 March, 1936 No. 3

THE LAW OF TITHING

By Elder Stephen L. Richards of the Council of the Twelve

My subject is tithing. I can scarcely hope to contribute a single new thought to this matter, but I have felt that the importance of it would serve to challenge your interest, and I have hoped that some good might result from a discussion of it. For some things that I may say I acknowledge indebtedness to a little volume which has recently been placed in my hands called, "Dealing Squarely With God."

The Relationship of Money and Property to Christianity: "You can usually tell the sincerity of a man's interest in anything by the way he puts his money into it." Indeed it has been said that the measure of a man's Christianity may be determined by the way he gets and spends his money. It is said that Jesus had more to say about money and property, strange as it may seem, than about any other subject. In sixteen of thirty-eight of His parables money and property are made His themes.

Money and Myself: After all, "Is not money myself? Money is the medium for which men exchange their abilities, ingenuity, and labor. When a man gives his money he is giving himself, and the way a man gives his money is the way he gives himself. Money is myself. I am a laboring man, we shall say, and can wield a pickaxe and hire myself out for a week at two dollars a day. At the close of the week I get twelve dollars and I put it in my pocket. What is that twelve dollars? It is a week's worth of my muscle put into greenbacks and pocketed. That is, I have a week's worth of myself in my pocket. So when a man gives the money that he has earned, he is giving literally of himself. Giving is worship. We are commanded "not to appear before the Lord empty-handed." Not that the Lord needs the gift, but that man needs to give.

Ward Teacher's Message for May

HIGH COUNCIL AND MISSIONARY ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, April 19, 1936

ALAMEDA—
John Kest and Elmo Carr.
BERKELEY—
Grant Ellis and Heber Brown.
DIMOND—
O. Leslie Stone and Oscar Fontano.
ELMHURST—
Wm. T. Hicken, Edwin Humphrey.
HAYWARD—
I. B. Ball and John Wimmer.
MARTINEZ—
C. C. Carr and Ray Shield.
OAKLAND—
John Soelberg and Leon Baer.
PITTSBURG—
Don Allphin and Ed. J. Partington
VALLEJO—
Ray H. Fisher and Ivins Hilton.

PRAYER

"Seek ye the Lord," is an admonition that applies also to the people of these days. Those whose lives are well-nigh completed, those who have had long years of experience and know with certainty what things are and what things are not worth while—these are they who ought to call out to the youth of today: "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found." Today is the time to call, tomorrow may be too late. O youth of our nation, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found. Call ye upon him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6).

Measured by this standard of praying, of family prayers and of secret prayers, how well do you and I measure up? Christ himself says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matt. 11:28-30). With what degree of regularity and earnestness do we in prayer struggle to put ourselves in harmony with that matchless power, the power of God, that power which comes into human hearts and lives as a result of prayerfulness and righteous living.

I realize that many who have paid little or no attention to religion, ridicule the idea that the light of heaven may shine into human hearts and souls as it shone into the lives of Saul of Tarsus and Joseph Smith, or that it may bring into a human heart a conviction like that which enabled Paul to stand before Agrippa and say, "I saw a vision. I saw a light."

But here are Joseph Smith's own words:

"However, it was nevertheless a fact that I beheld a vision. I have thought since, that I felt much like Paul, when he made his defense before King Agrippa, and related the account of the vision he had when he saw a light, and heard a voice; but still there were but a few who believed him; some said he was dishonest, others said he was mad; and he was ridiculed and reviled. But all this did not destroy the reality of his vision. He had seen a vision, he knew he had, and all the persecution under heaven could not make it otherwise; and though they should persecute him unto death, yet he knew, and would know to his last breath, that he had both seen a light and heard a voice speaking unto him, and all the world could not make him think or believe otherwise. So it was with me." (Pearl of Great Price, p. 49).

Experiences like these, it seems, can be understood and most of them can be experienced and enjoyed only through the power of faith. A satisfying knowledge or faith concerning things spiritual cannot come merely through logic or reason, for these come only as a result of righteous, prayerful, religious living. The following familiar words from the Holy Book explain briefly and clearly what I mean:

"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." (John 7:17).

If we are losing faith, if it seems our prayers are unanswered, let us reflect upon these words which the Lord has given to us in Section 101 of the Doctrine and Covenants:

"In the day of their peace they esteemed lightly my counsel; but, in the day of their trouble, of necessity they feel after me. They were slow to hearken unto the voice of the Lord their God; therefore, the Lord their God is slow to hearken unto their prayers, to answer them in the day of their trouble." (D. & C. 101:7-8.)

I have mentioned but three of the standards of the Church. Measured by these, are you and am I doing the will of our Heavenly Father? If we are, the promise says it is our right to know whether or not there is life beyond the grave, whether the doctrines advocated are true, or whether these doctrines are false.

Elder Richard R. Lyman

"I am the Resurrection and the Life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."—John 11:25.

THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ the very son of God. He was with the Father from the beginning. Before the foundation of this world. He was chosen of the Father for sacrificial death here on earth. Freely he offered himself to the Father BECAUSE of his LOVE for those spirit children of the Father who were to become the mortal children here on earth.

Our first parents, Adam and Eve, were also given missions to perform here on earth from before the world was created. They were placed in the garden of Eden and given two commandments. First the privilege of partaking of the fruit of the garden but the fruit of the "Tree of Good and Evil" they were not to partake of, for in the day they should eat thereof they should surely die. Second they were commanded to multiply and replenish the earth. They broke the first law. They ate of the forbidden fruit and in so doing brought death into the world.

It must be that God should offer a sacrifice for this broken law that the resurrection might be brought about to all mankind. Through Adam all die and through Christ are we all made alive. Christ, as stated before, was chosen from the beginning because of His love for humanity and willingness to give His life as redemption. You and I were bought with a price, the Blood of Jesus Christ. In the eternal world, we are taught that through our free agency there, we pledged ourselves to follow the teachings of our Redeemed Jesus Christ, for we understood this great plan of salvation of God the Father, and approved it.

Now if we keep our pledge to our God, seeing we have our free agency to do so here, as we did there, we will not only be saved but we will be exalted in the Eternities and be permitted to dwell in the presence of God the Father and God his Son Jesus Christ.

So the mission of Jesus Christ was to bring all men unto God through his teaching, and through his crucifixion he broke the bands of death, thereby bringing about the resurrection to all mankind and exaltation if we will follow his teachings.

Great and glorious is Jesus Christ the redeemer of mankind and Very Son of God.

Robert McDonald

OPERETTA

The musical comedy, "In Old Vienna," under the direction of Orthella Hughes, was presented Friday and Saturday evenings, April 10 and 11, in the Berkeley Ward amusement hall. The large cast of Berkeley talent was headed by Maxine Thomas, Glenn Brown, La Vorn Thomas, Esther Jensen, and Hazel Leighton.

The production of this operetta is the culmination of the efforts of Sister Hughes, whose training and experience lent a professional touch to the performance. This should prove to be the first among other similar musical ventures in the Stake.

DEATH

Funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Ashby Snow Ivins, widow of President Anthony W. Ivins, were held Wednesday, March 25, at 12:30 p. m. in the Ensign Ward Chapel, under direction of Bishop Gordon T. Hyde.

Mrs. Ivins died Saturday, March 21, at 9:30 p. m., at the family residence, 519 B street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

At the time of her death within three days of 82 years old, Mrs. Ivins had been failing in health during the past winter, but her condition had been critical only since last Wednesday, when she developed pneumonia. Her sons and daughters living in Salt Lake City including Elder Antoine R. Ivins of the First Council of Seventy, were at her bedside when she died.

Mrs. Ivins was the daughter of Elder Erastus Snow, Utah pioneer and member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles, and Elizabeth Ashby Snow. She was born in Salt Lake City, March 24, 1854. When she was seven years old her parents moved to St. George as pioneers to Utah's Dixie. In the same company with his parents, was Anthony W. Ivins, a lad of nine years. President Ivins died September 24, 1934.

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• • WARD NEWS • •

BIRTHS

DAUGHTER—To Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Jensen, March 12.

DAUGHTER—To Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Rich, January 24, Oakland.

OAKLAND

A farewell party was given in honor of Eva Brown by the Primary Officers and Teachers, with whom she has worked for some time. Miss Brown left recently for Salt Lake where she is to be married soon. She was also given a shower before her departure by Mrs. Ardell Kay and Wanda Chase.

An Easter Picnic was given by the Oakland Primary on Saturday, April 11, at Lake Merritt Park. The children enjoyed an egg hunt and other Easter festivities.

Lorraine Diers and Henry Whiffen left recently for Salt Lake where they are to be married in the Salt Lake Temple.

Ruth Bergman visited in the Oakland Ward for a short time following her return from Honolulu, before leaving for Seattle to be married.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Bagley returned to Oakland after an extended visit in Portland, Oregon. They were accompanied by their daughter, Mrs. Glen Watts and her son George and Mrs. A. M. Lewis. They will visit in Oakland for a short time.

Miss Cecelia Jensen will leave soon with her mother, Mrs. Anna C. Jensen of Sacramento, for a trip to Europe where they plan to visit Mrs. Jensen's former home in Sweden.

Mrs. Francis W. Rich was operated on for ruptured appendix on February 29, and is on the road to recovery.

Mrs. Melva Jacobson, mother of Mrs. F. W. Rich, returned from Salt Lake Wednesday, after spending two months here with her daughter.

ALAMEDA

The annual ward Relief Society conference was held Sunday, March 15. Mrs. Sarah Carruth and Mrs. Jones, of the Stake Board, spoke on the value of Relief Society work. Other speakers included Mrs. Catherine Marsh, Mrs. Carol Durham, Mrs. Edith Plyer, Mrs. Janet Targhetta, and Mrs. Annie Evans. Mrs. Ann Tuttle and Mrs. Sarah Everett, first and second counsellors to Mrs. Katie Hunt, were honorably released after four years of service. Mrs. Marie Meuter and Mrs. Ruth Leatham will assume these respective offices.

The Alameda ward Boy Scouts, under the direction of their leader, Mr. Richardson, stayed at the Oakland camp Friday and Saturday nights, March 27 and 28. Instruction in first aid and other scout work was given.

The officers and teachers of the Primary met at the home of Mrs. Anne Horman.

We welcome the Yeaman family of Ogden as new members of the ward.

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BERKELEY

Mr. and Mrs. Von T. Ellsworth were hosts at a birthday party given in honor of Mrs. Ellsworth's sister, Olga Lott, Wednesday evening, April 8. Twenty persons were present.

Wells Jakeman has returned from a visit to Mexico, where he did research work in the field of anthropology and history.

Members of the Berkeley Deseret Club presented a program explaining the principles of Mormonism before representatives of the Inner-Faith Council of the University of California, Tuesday evening, April 14, at the Y. W. C. A. Cottage. Speakers of the evening were Elsie Johnson and Eldon Gardner. Those contributing to the musical program were Le Grande Anderson, James Deane, and Karleton Driggs.

MARTINEZ

A surprise party was given Mrs. John Abbott in honor of her birthday. Dancing and games were enjoyed during the evening and refreshments served.

Ike Taylor, former Martinez resident, has returned after an absence of several years.

Evelyn Brey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brey, has been confined to her home for the past month due to illness.

Relief Society Conference was held March 22.

Elder Woods of the High Council was the speaker at Sacramento meeting on March 15. Elder Jacobs, Elder Wood and Elder Boothe of the Stake Genealogical Committee were Speakers on March 29 at Sacrament meeting. President MacDonald was also in attendance.

The Primary held an Easter picnic and egg-hunt April 8 at Shady Glenn in Franklin Canyon.

Elder Raymond Larson's brother from Arizona is now residing in the Martinez Ward.

Our Primary President, Sister Verona Cullen, has recovered from a recent operation and is now actively engaged in Primary work again.

DIMOND

Lewis F. Boyles and family have moved to Sacramento.

Rose Clarke, the Primary Superintendent, has as her guest, her father, T. Thomas of Lehi, Utah.

Mr. and Mrs. Asel Smith's daughter, Marilyn was recently christened by her grandfather, Bishop David A. Smith of the Presiding Bishopric, while he was here attending Conference.

Donald Campbell and family have left Dimond to make their home in Modesto.

The many friends of Ruth Hilton will be delighted to hear of her marked improvement.

Annabelle Hart, a former member of the Dimond Choral, is now making her home at Fairmont, where her husband is resident physician.

The officers and teachers of the Primary entertained for their husbands the evening of April 2. About thirty people enjoyed the unique games and dancing.

Mrs. Electa Dickson, who has been spending the winter with her daughter, Sarah Summerhays, left last week for her home in Provo, Utah.

The members of the Dimond Choral surprised their director, Jean Lauper, with a birthday party April 6.

The mother of Lois Smith, Mrs. Jeanette Hales, recently returned to her home in Salt Lake.

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EVIDENCES OF CHRIST'S LITERAL RESURRECTION

As I look out upon the brightness of the early morning, I cannot help being impressed with the beauty of the springtime; the re-awakening of new life on every side. The earth kissed by the sunshine and showers gives forth her bounteous gifts to man. The music of the birds, the magic of growing things and the breath of blossom scented breezes, these are God's gifts to His children.

As His children we are blessed with two wonderful books of sacred history to guide and advise us by the word of the Holy Prophets whose writings are contained therein: The Bible, which is the record of God's dealings with His people in the Eastern world and the Book of Mormon, a record of His dealings with His people on this Western land, separated from the Eastern hemisphere and then unknown to its inhabitants.

Within these two great books is recorded the story of the greatest of God's gifts to His children—that of the redemption of mankind by Jesus Christ who by his great sacrifice broke the bonds of death and the grave that all men might partake of a literal resurrection therefrom.

In the days of Christ, crucifixion was considered the most shameful death that could be inflicted upon a sinner. As the Saviour walked up Calvary's hill amid the taunts and jeers of the multitude, weighted down with the heavy cross, his suffering was more than mere mortal could bear, even his Divine power was taxed to the utmost and a prayer for strength was in his heart.

As he was placed upon the cross and crowned with thorns, His Godhood mas made manifest as he prayed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

As the body of Jesus was taken from the cross and laid in the tomb, even his Disciples could not fully sense the glorious resurrection that was to be and of which the prophets had spoken.

Early in the morning of the third day, Mary Magdalene came to the sepulchre and saw that the stone had been rolled away. She too had not understood that Jesus' resurrection would be a literal resurrection of his body. She was frightened and ran to his disciples saying, "They have taken my Lord out of the sepulchre and we know not where they have laid Him."

Peter and one other ran quickly and they too saw that the tomb was empty. Mary stood aside weeping and when she turned she saw some one standing near who said to her, "Woman, why weepest thou?" In her grief she did not recognize Jesus and thinking it was the gardener who had spoken she said, "Sir, if thou hast borne Him hence, tell me where thou hast laid Him, and I will take Him away." Jesus called her by name, "Mary," and stood before her in all His holiness, the first fruits of the literal resurrection.

The same day at evening when the disciples were assembled, Jesus came and stood in their midst saying, "Peace be unto you."

He talked with the disciples instructing them in their duties and leaving with them the power and authority to baptize and administer in His Holy Name.

The death and resurrection of Christ was that *all* mankind might be redeemed and so we have the record of the inhabitants of this great western hemisphere of which the disciples and those in the land of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection knew nothing at that time.

Nephi tells of the terrible storms and earthquakes and darkness which visited this continent at the time of the death of Christ. Many people perished and great changes were made all over the land.

There was a great multitude of the people of Nephi gathered together about the temple discussing these changes and the terrible signs that had been given of Christ's death. As they talked one with another they heard a voice as if it came out of heaven. They heard the voice the third time, and as they looked toward the heavens the voice said,

"Behold my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, in whom I have glorified my name, hear ye Him."

And Jesus descended out of heaven and stood in the midst of them and said, "Behold I am Jesus Christ whom the Prophets testified should come into the world."

And when the multitude fell to the earth Jesus said, "Arise and come forth unto me that ye may thrust your hands into my side and also that ye may feel the prints of the nails in my hands and feet that ye may know that I am the God of Israel and the God of the whole earth and have been slain for the sins of the world."

They did as he told them and satisfied themselves that this was indeed the crucified body of the resurrected Jesus. And they cried out with one accord;

"'Hosanna' Blessed be the name of the most high God.

"And they fell down at the feet of Jesus and worshipped Him."

Christ's obedience to God's plan had been absolute and complete. This crucified One has been and is the life and light of the world and His words have been fulfilled:

"And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me."

• • • AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES • • •

M. I. A.

The last Union Meeting of the season will be held Sunday, April 19, in the Oakland Chapel. All wards should plan to be well represented, as preparations for the forthcoming honor night will be made. The wards are asked at this time to do all in their power to promote enthusiasm for the June Conference.

Those who have participated in the Era Drive are to be congratulated, as every ward in the Stake went over the top.

The Messenger wishes to apologize for a great oversight in neglecting to mention the Gold and Green Ball, which took place Feb. 21. This was a grave error as it was the most important social event of the month. We wish at this time to congratulate Miss Noreen Morgan of Dimond, who was chosen queen of the affair.

The meeting of the M. I. A. Convention on April 26 will start at seven o'clock. The Hobby Display will open at 8:30. Mary Scott and Mr. Atkin will be in charge. In addition to the Salt Lake visitors, Merl Curtis and "Blacky" Huish will be speakers. There will be numerous displays of all types, the purpose of which is to interest more people in developing a hobby. The visitors from Salt Lake are expected to talk on hobbies. Everyone is invited to attend.

ANOINTING THE SICK

In view of all the instructions previously given it should not be necessary to reiterate the form of this sacred ordinance. Since, however, further questions have been asked, we are authorized to make the following statement. Consecrated olive oil is to be applied on the head of the sick person, while one bearing the Melchizedek Priesthood pronounces the anointing ceremony. This is to be followed by the laying on of the hands of the Elders and the giving of a sealing blessing. Where members individually desire to apply consecrated oil to their bodies, either externally or internally, to remedy some particular ailment, there can be no objection. But such application is not and should not be made a part of the anointing ordinance, but is solely a matter for the individual action of the afflicted person. Any reasonable use of consecrated oil by individual Church members for bodily ills, accompanied by faith and prayer, is not contrary to the purpose for which it is set apart.

The Presiding Bishopric

PRIMARY NEWS

The Primary Stake Board met at the home of Superintendent Jean Lauper, Friday, April 17, for their monthly meeting, at which preparations were made for the Primary Convention and Conference to be held April 25, 26.

The opening session will be held Saturday, April 25, at 2 p. m. in the Oakland Ward. General Board visitors will preside and all officers and teachers are required to be there. Please bring your problems and questions so that the discussions in the class periods may be interesting and worth while.

During the Sunday morning session, a standing roll call will be taken, so that one hundred per cent attendance of Primary workers is urged.

RELIEF SOCIETY

Owing to changes made by the Generai Authorities of the Church in Stake Conference plans, it will be impossible for the Relief Societies to have their annual needlework exhibit this spring. At a later date the announcement will be made, however.

Mrs. Ivy S. Beech of the Stake Presidency was the representative at April Conference in Salt Lake City.

A luncheon Board meeting will be held at the home of Bessie C. Hughes, Thursday, April 23.

EASTER MORN

Without the city gates a pilgrim stood,
His garments old and torn, his sandals gone.
He raised his head and murmured,
"Why should I enter in and worship here?
I have no jewels or silks, I have not even bread
Nor lowliest hut where I may rest myself."
And as he stood the Sabbath bells rang out,
Sweet voices told the joy of Easter Morn.
The Pilgrim bowed his head and said,
"Forgive me Lord—I had forgot the riches that
are mine,
Eternal Life—Salvation from the grave,
With blessings such as these, I need not worldly
wealth,
I am content."
—Lola M. Shumway.

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